

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 10 are amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved sanitaryware casting method, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one shell mold selected from a plurality of shell molds, each said shell mold having a casting space for casting a unique sanitaryware shell configuration thereby, said shell having a hollow housing space for disposition of a unique sanitaryware performance engine configuration therewithin;

providing at least one engine mold selected from a plurality of engine molds, each said engine mold having a casting space for a unique performance engine configuration thereby;

providing at least one rim mold selected from a plurality of rim molds, each said rim mold having a casting space for casting a unique sanitaryware rim configuration thereby;

separately casting said shell, engine and rim in said selected configurations;

disposing said engine in said shell housing space to form at least one shell and engine assembly; and

assembling said rim with said shell and engine assembly to form at least one shell, engine and rim assembly such that, upon firing, said shell, engine and rim assembly forms a single integral piece of sanitaryware therefrom[.],

wherein any said selected configuration of said shell, said engine or said rim is interchangeable with at least one of any non-selected configuration of said shell,

said engine or said rim to produce a plurality of said shell, engine and rim assemblies therefrom.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein each said shell configuration includes a rim portion to accommodate placement of said rim thereadjacent, a base portion for securement to a support surface and a peripheral surface wall having an exterior surface that defines said shell's external contour and an interior surface that defines said shell housing space's internal contour and parameters.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of glazing said exterior surface of said peripheral surface wall after said shell casting step.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein a glaze applied during said glazing step is selected to provide said shell with one or more properties of color, contour, texture, sheen and any combination thereof.
5. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein each said engine configuration includes a rim portion that is generally coplanar with said shell rim portion and that, along with said shell rim portion, accommodates placement of said rim thereadjacent, a bowl portion having a complementary contour relative to that of said peripheral surface wall, and a trapway portion in communication with a fluid inlet and a fluid outlet contiguous therewith.
6. (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a ~~special~~ ceramic sticking compound to said shell prior to said disposing step, after which said applying step said engine is inserted therein.
7. (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a ~~special~~ ceramic sticking compound to one or both of said shell and engine rim portions prior to said rim assembling step.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for casting a plurality of sanitaryware designs from interchangeable elements, comprising the steps of:

providing a series of molds for making said interchangeable elements, said molds including a plurality of shell molds, each said shell mold having a casting space for casting a unique sanitaryware shell configuration thereby, said shell having a hollow housing space for disposition of a sanitaryware performance engine therewithin; ~~providing a series~~ plurality of engine molds, each said engine mold having a casting space for casting a unique performance engine configuration thereby; ~~and providing a series~~ plurality of rim molds, each said rim mold having a casting space for casting a unique sanitaryware rim configuration thereby;

selecting at least one of said plurality of shell, engine and rim molds configuration to produce at least one corresponding ~~from each series of said shell configurations, said performance engine configurations and said rim mold configurations~~ interchangeable element thereby;

separately casting said at least one corresponding interchangeable element shell, engine and rim in said selected ~~configurations~~ configuration;

disposing ~~said a~~ cast engine configuration in said shell housing space to form at least one shell and engine assembly thereby;

assembling ~~said a~~ cast rim with said shell and engine assembly to form at least one shell, engine and rim assembly such that, upon firing, said shell, engine and rim assembly forms ~~a single~~ an integral piece of sanitaryware; and

repeating one or more of said steps until a predetermined number of said sanitaryware designs is produced thereby[.].

wherein said at least one corresponding interchangeable element is interchangeable with any said selected configuration of said engine, said shell or said rim to produce said plurality of sanitaryware designs therefrom.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein said selection step includes selection of more than one of said plurality of shell molds, said engine molds and said rim molds ~~configuration from one or more of said shell configurations, said engine configurations and said rim configurations.~~
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein said at least one interchangeable element ~~selected shell, engine and rim configurations are~~ is interchangeable with any non-selected shell, engine and rim configurations configuration of said shell, said engine or said rim to produce said plurality of sanitaryware designs therefrom.
11. to 23. (Withdrawn).